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MR18/008 DROUGHT RELIEF UPDATE - EUROBODALLA RAINDANCE

File Ref: E17.1001

Attachments: Nil

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

At its meeting on 14 August 2018, Council endorsed my initiative to engage in a friendship arrangement with Cobar Shire and facilitate a drought relief working group with a number of community leaders.

The working group consists of myself, Councillors Brown and McGinlay, members of the Narooma, Moruya and Catalina golf clubs, Batemans Bay and Moruya Chambers of Commerce, SAGE, Quota Narooma, Lions Club of Batemans Bay, Moruya and Narooma, Carroll College and Council staff.

The working group has met on four occasions, and are coordinating an exciting community initiative, Eurobodalla Rain dances. The Eurobodalla Rain dances will be held on Friday 23 November 2018 at Narooma, Moruya and Catalina Golf Clubs. It is anticipated that each event will be identical and include music, finger food and auctions and raffles of donated goods and services. Council will be taking the lead role in coordinating the event and the working group is to secure donations and assist Council in the event.

Donations have already been pledged by Coles, the Boathouse Canberra, Bannisters Mollymook, NAB Bank, SAGE and Australian National Events, who have secured Frankie J Holden and Wilber Wilde for a small donation. David White Management who has offered to coordinate much of the entertainment is also donating a special edition, signed guitar as a major raffle prize. Music by local entertainers and the three venues have also been donated.

The three events on 23 November 2018 will be ticketed at \$50.00 through an online booking system. Numbered tickets will be sold for the major raffle whilst auctions and other raffles or tombola's will be held at each event on the night.

It is proposed that all proceeds from the events, auction and raffles be donated to the drought relief. To facilitate this, Council has sought advice and it is recommended that a not for profit entity be the holder of the events, raffles and auctions. The Lions Club have been identified as meeting the necessary criteria. This will mean that all monies will be pledged to the Lions Club for distribution. Council will continue to coordinate the event and assist the working group through this process.

To ensure that all funds from this event are donated to the drought relief, I recommend that \$15,000 from my Mayoral Donation fund and Executive budget be used to off-set the unavoidable costs such as brochure and ticket printing, fees for online tickets and other minor costs.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

THAT Council:

1. endorse the actions taken, to date, by the drought relief working group in coordination of the Eurobodalla rain dances .
2. supports financial contribution from the Mayoral Donation fund for \$15,000 to support the Eurobodalla rain dances.